

In The Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

What is claimed is:

1. (currently amended) A mold core (1) of an injection molding tool for the injection molding of preforms of plastic material, wherein the mold core (1) is in the form of a hollow casing which is closed at one end, said mold core having ~~with~~ a central axis (2), an outer surface (3), an inner surface (4) and a hollow cooling tube (5) which is arranged in the mold core (1) at a spacing from the inner surface (4) thereof, in communication with coolant feed conduits (7) and coolant discharge conduits (8), ~~characterised in that~~ wherein

- the cooling tube (5) extends coaxially with respect to the mold core (1) over almost the entire length thereof and is provided at ~~the~~ a downstream end with an outlet opening (9), and

- ~~that~~ provided on the inner surface (4) of the mold core (1) are cooling grooves (11) extending substantially transversely with respect to the central axis (2).

2. (currently amended) A mold core (1) as set forth in claim 1 characterised in that the cooling grooves (11) are of a pointed, round or mixed pointed and ~~and/or~~ round profile in cross-section.

3. (currently amended) A mold core (1) as set forth in claim 1 ~~or claim 2 characterised in that~~ wherein the cooling grooves (11) extend in a helical configuration.

4. (currently amended) A mold core (1) as set forth in ~~one of claims 1 through 3~~  
~~characterised in that~~ claim 1 wherein the cooling grooves (11) extend over ~~that a~~ surface region  
(10) of the mold core (1), on which the preform is injected.

5. (currently amended) A mold core (1) as set forth in ~~one of claims 1 through 3~~  
~~characterised in that~~ claim 1 wherein the outlet opening (9) on the cooling tube (5) has at least  
one cut-out (13) extending in the direction of the central axis (2).

6. (new) A mold core (1) as set forth in claim 2 wherein the cooling grooves (11) extend  
in a helical configuration.

7. (new) A mold core (1) as set forth in claim 2 wherein the cooling grooves (11) extend  
over a surface region (10) of the mold core (1), on which the preform is injected.

8 (new) A mold core (1) as set forth in claim 3 wherein the cooling grooves (11) extend  
over a surface region (10) of the mold core (1), on which the preform is injected.

9. (new) A mold core (1) as set forth in claim 2 wherein the outlet opening (9) on the  
cooling tube (5) has at least one cut-out (13) extending in the direction of the central axis (2).

10. (new) A mold core (1) as set forth in claim 3 wherein the outlet opening (9) on the cooling tube (5) has at least one cut-out (13) extending in the direction of the central axis (2).

11. (new) A mold core (1) as set forth in claim 4 wherein the outlet opening (9) on the cooling tube (5) has at least one cut-out (13) extending in the direction of the central axis (2).